

C85183 FAQs

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AC Power

- ✓ The design of this alarm clock is to use AC power (5-volt) as primary power source.
- ✓ When operating with the AC power cord, the [backlight](#) can be on continually.
- ✓ When operating on AC power, batteries are optional and are not required in the alarm clock.
- ✓ The [backlight](#) will turn off or operate at high or low intensity at your discretion.

Batteries

Explanation: Many problems are resolved with fresh batteries of the appropriate voltage. Many items sent in under warranty work when tested with fresh batteries. Batteries manufactured this year will have

an expiration date 10 years (or more) in the future. Battery technology has improved and batteries will maintain voltage longer in storage. However, the environment the batteries reside in for the 10 years can deplete the power.

- ✓ We suggest name brand Alkaline batteries for **indoor displays**.
- ✓ A minimum voltage of 1.48V for each battery is necessary for proper performance.
- ✓ Use batteries dated at least six years in advance of the current year. Batteries dated earlier than six years from now may still work, but may be unstable in performance.
- ✓ Good name brand batteries make less noise, which reduces the chance of RF (radio frequency) interference from the battery compartment.

Atomic Alarm Clock Factory Restart

Explanation: The factory restart returns the atomic alarm clock to an “out-of-the-box” state and often resolves an issue.

Factory Restart:

1. Remove all power (batteries and AC) from the alarm clock.
2. Press one of the buttons on the alarm clock at least 20 times to clear all memory.
3. Verify that the alarm clock is blank before proceeding (some lines are painted on and will not disappear).
4. **Leave without power for 15 minutes** (very important).
5. Insert the AC power cord into the wall outlet then into the alarm clock.
6. Do not press buttons for 15 minutes.

Atomic Alarm Clock

12-Hour or 24-Hour Time Format

- ✓ Display the time in 12-hour or 24-hour format
- ✓ Default is 12-hour time
- ✓ Use the [Program Menu](#) to switch time formats

Supported Time Zones

This atomic alarm clock offers seven time zones:

- ✓ AST=Atlantic
- ✓ EST= Eastern
- ✓ CST= Central
- ✓ MST= Mountain
- ✓ PST= Pacific
- ✓ AKT= Alaska
- ✓ HAT=Hawaiian

The atomic alarm clock works in North America. Outside of North America, the atomic alarm clock will not receive a WWVB signal, but will keep time like a quartz clock.

Fahrenheit/Celsius

- ✓ Press and release the SET/°F/°C button on the top of the atomic alarm clock to switch the temperature display from Fahrenheit to Celsius.

Inaccurate Indoor Temperature Reading

Explanation: These symbols are error messages indication the indoor sensor is outside of its readable range. For indoor readings, this is generally a power related issue.

- ✓ [Batteries](#) may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove power from the alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the alarm clock unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Install the AC cord or fresh Alkaline batteries with correct polarity.
- ✓ If the indoor temperature is still shows dashes, HH.H or LL.L, the alarm clock may need replacement.

Dashes, OFL or Stuck Indoor Temperature

- ✓ This is generally a power related issue.
- ✓ Check that the A/C power cord. Is it correctly installed and connects to an active outlet?
- ✓ [Batteries](#) may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove batteries from atomic alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the atomic alarm clock unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Insert fresh alkaline batteries with correct polarity.
- ✓ If the indoor temperature is still dashes or OFL, the atomic alarm clock may need replacement.

Does the clock have a backlight?

Yes, this atomic alarm clock has a backlight.

A/C adapter:

The backlight can show continuously when operating the atomic alarm clock with the 5-volt A/C adapter.

- ✓ HIGH: The backlight is defaulted to HI (brightness) when the A/C adapter is in use.
- ✓ LOW: Press and release the SNOOZE/LIGHT HI-LO-OFF button to **dim** the intensity of the backlight.
- ✓ OFF: Press and release the SNOOZE/LIGHT HI-LO-OFF button to turn the backlight off to sleep.

Note: When the A/C adapter is NOT in use, the High-Low-OFF backlight feature is not available.

Note: When the backlight is off, press any button to activate the backlight for 10 seconds, and then it will turn off again.

Battery power:

Press and release the SNOOZE/LIGHT HI-LO-OFF button and the backlight will show for 10 seconds, when operating on batteries only.

IMPORTANT: During A/C power operation, the **backlight and USB charging port** will turn off while the atomic alarm clock searches for the WWVB to avoid interference. The backlight will return after 4-8 minutes search (which occurs during the late night or early morning hours). The USB charging port will then resume working.

Time is off by hours

- ✓ Check to see if the [WWVB](#) Tower icon appears on the atomic alarm clock. If not, the atomic alarm clock has not received a WWVB time signal in the past 24 hours.
- ✓ Reposition the atomic alarm clock with the front or back facing Colorado.
- ✓ Check that the [Time Zone](#) selected correctly reflects your location. Adjust the time zone in the [Program Menu](#).
- ✓ Check that the DST indicator is correct for your location (most areas observe DST so this should be ON). Adjust the DST indicator in the [Program Menu](#).
- ✓ Large buildings, metal roofed buildings and buildings or rooms full of electrical and/or radio equipment make it difficult to receive the WWVB time signal.

Daylight Saving Time

- ✓ Dependent on your location, position of the clock in your home, and atmospheric interference, it may take up to 5 nights for the change from Daylight Savings Time to Standard Time and vice-versa to occur.
- ✓ Check for a [WWVB](#) Tower Icon showing on the atomic alarm clock. The tower icon indicates you have received the WWVB signal from Ft Collins CO in the past 24 hours.
- ✓ Check that the clock is in the correct [Time Zone](#).
- ✓ Check whether the DST indicator is ON or OFF. If the indicator is OFF the clock will not change.
- ✓ Check for fresh [batteries](#). Without proper batteries, the antenna will have a harder time picking up the signal.
- ✓ Position the atomic alarm clock in a window (*with the front or back*) facing Ft. Collins, Colorado and leave for up to five nights. If you do not have a window facing this direction, position the clock near an outside wall and point the unit in this general direction.

Manually Set Time/Date: Program Menu

The SET/°F/°C button will move through the program menu. The + or - buttons will change a value.

- ✓ WWVB ON/OFF: Hold the SET/°F/°C button for 5 seconds. WWVB and the word ON will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to turn this to OFF if you do not wish WWVB reception. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ TIME ZONE: EST will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to select a different time zone: AST=Atlantic, EST= Eastern, CST= Central, MST= Mountain, PST= Pacific, AKT= Alaska, HAT=Hawaiian time zone. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: DST will flash and the word ON. Press and release the + or - buttons to turn this to OFF if you do not observe DST. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ 12/24 HOUR TIME: 12Hr will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to select 24hr. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ HOUR: The hour will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to select the correct hour. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ MINUTES: The minutes will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to select the correct minutes. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ YEAR: The year will flash. Press and release + or - buttons to select the correct year. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ MONTH: The month will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to select the correct month. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and move to the next item.
- ✓ DATE: The date will flash. Press and release the + or - buttons to select the correct date. Confirm with the SET/°F/°C button and exit the program menu.

Note: The Day of the Week will set automatically after the year, month and date are set.

Note: If no buttons are pressed for 20 seconds, the set mode times out.

FAHRENHEIT/CELSIUS: Press and release the SET/°F/°C button to select temperature readings in Fahrenheit or Celsius.

No WWVB Tower Icon

- ✓ The atomic alarm clock has not received a WWVB time signal in the past 24 hours.
- ✓ [Position](#) the atomic alarm clock for better reception.
- ✓ Hold the - button to send the Atomic alarm clock on a WWVB signal search at night.
- ✓ Allow up to 5 nights to receive the time signal.

IMPORTANT: During A/C power operation, the **backlight and USB charging port** will turn off while the atomic alarm clock searches for the WWVB to avoid interference. The backlight will return after 4-8 minutes search (which occurs during the late night or early morning hours). The USB charging port will then resume working.

Set Time Alarm

Press and release the ALARM button once to show Alarm Time. The letters AL will appear where the seconds display.

- ✓ ALARM HOUR: Hold the ALARM button to enter alarm time setting mode. The Alarm Hour will flash. Use the + or - buttons to set the Hour. Press and release the ALARM button.
- ✓ ALARM MINUTE: The Alarm Minutes will flash. Use the + or - buttons to set the Minutes. Press and release the ALARM button to exit.

Activate/Deactivate Time Alarm

ACTIVATE:

Press and release the ALARM button once to show Alarm Time.

- ✓ With the Alarm time showing, press and release the ALARM button to activate the alarm. The alarm icon (bell) appears when alarm is active.

DEACTIVATE:

- ✓ With the Alarm time showing, press and release the ALARM button to deactivate the alarm. The alarm icon will disappear when alarm is inactive.
Note: When the alarm sounds, it will continue for two minutes then shut off.

Snooze Alarm

- ✓ When the alarm sounds, press the SNOOZE button to trigger snooze alarm for 10 minutes.
- ✓ The snooze icon **Zz** will flash when the snooze feature is active.
- ✓ To stop alarm for one day, press ALARM button, while in snooze mode.
- ✓ The alarm icon (bell) will remain solid.

USB Charge Port

Explanation: The alarm clock has an integrated USB charging port (on back) that will charge a device when the alarm clock is operated on AC power.

Note: This is a power-output charging port. It does not supply power to the projection alarm.

- ✓ Connect your external device's USB charging cable (not included) to the USB charging port.
- ✓ Charging times will vary.
- ✓ USB Power Output: 0.5A maximum current
- ✓ Charge 0.5A devices or devices that are self-regulating

Note: Some USB cables are for data transfer only and cannot be used for charging. Make sure that the USB cable you use will charge your device. Most USB cables included with mobile devices will work for charging.

Note: Many devices may require more power to charge than provided by this alarm clock.

Moon phase is incorrect.

The moon phase is programmed to the Gregorian calendar rather than the lunar calendar. The moon phase may be off a few days from the moon phase seen on the Internet.

Atomic Alarm Clock is dim

Explanation: Most alarm clocks have a gray background. Place the alarm clock at eye level, to determine if it is dim. Alarm clocks that sit in the sunlight can develop a cloudy film over time.

- ✓ This is generally a power related issue.
- ✓ Batteries may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove batteries from alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the alarm clock unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Install fresh alkaline batteries with correct polarity.

Atomic Alarm Clock has distorted or frozen display

Explanation: On a brand new alarm clock, check for thin plastic film of **printed scratch guard** that may be on the screen of the alarm clock. This thin piece of plastic has printed numbers for store displays. When the batteries are installed, the "real" numbers show behind the printed scratch guard and create distortion.

- ✓ With all power removed, the alarm clock should be blank.
- ✓ If numbers still appear, please check for scratch guard.

Power:

- ✓ Check that the batteries are installed correctly.
- ✓ This is generally a power related issue.
- ✓ Batteries may be overpowered or underpowered.
- ✓ Remove batteries from alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the batteries out of the display for 2 hours.
- ✓ Insert batteries into the alarm clock.

Atomic Alarm Clock is blank: No letters, numbers or dashed lines

- ✓ Check that the batteries are installed correctly.
- ✓ Batteries may be overpowered or underpowered.

- ✓ Remove batteries from alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the batteries out of the display for 2 hours.
- ✓ Insert batteries into the alarm clock.

Atomic Alarm Clock drains batteries quickly

- ✓ Test a new set of alkaline batteries. Write down the date of installation and the voltage of the batteries.
- ✓ When the batteries fail, please note the date and voltage again. This is helpful in determining the problem.
- ✓ Check for leaking batteries, which may damage the alarm clock.
- ✓ Battery life is over 12 months when using reputable battery brands.

Atomic Alarm Clock has missing segments

Explanation: When parts of numbers, letters, or pictures are missing on the display, it is often power related.

- ✓ Batteries may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove batteries from alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the alarm clock unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Install fresh alkaline batteries with correct polarity.